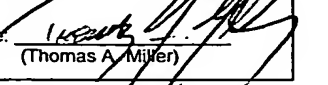


MD  
8/19/04

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: August 16, 2004

Signature:   
(Thomas A. Miller)

copy

StmH(305c)  
@ 8/12/04

Docket No.: 30757/39732  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
Edwin Otero, *et al.*

Application No.: 10/763,611

Group Art Unit: 3745

Filed: January 23, 2004

Examiner: Joanne P. Hodge

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
REDUCING OPERATING STRESS IN A  
TURBINE BLADE AND THE LIKE

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF FORMAL REQUIREMENT**

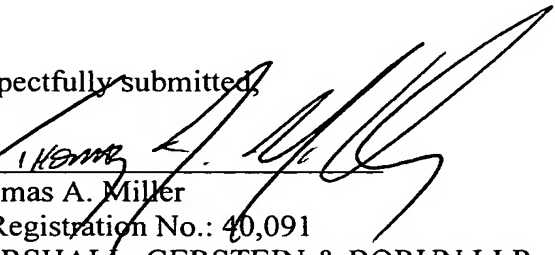
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
**Attn: Licensing and Review**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Requirement for Statement under §305(c) of the Aeronautics and Space Act dated July 16, 2004, applicants herewith submit a declaration signed by the inventors pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §2457 related to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The declaration attests to the fact that the invention was not made under, nor is there any relationship of the invention to, the performance of any work under any contract of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. As the requirement was mailed on July 16, 2004, and provided thirty days for response, which due date fell on a Saturday, this submission is timely filed. Should the Examiner have any questions, he is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Dated: August 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Thomas A. Miller

Registration No.: 40,091  
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP  
6300 Sears Tower  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357  
(312) 474-6300  
Attorney for Applicant

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: August 16, 2004

Signature:

(Thomas A. Miller)

Docket No.: 30757/39732  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Otero, *et al.*

Application No.: 10/763,611

Art Unit: 3745

Filed: January 23, 2004

Examiner: Joanne P. Hodge

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
REDUCING OPERATING STRESS IN A  
TURBINE BLADE AND THE LIKE

**DECLARATION PURSUANT TO 42 U.S.C. 2457 RELATED TO THE NATIONAL  
AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA)**

Attn: Licensing & Review  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

We, Edwin Otero and Patrick Strong, both citizens of the United States of America, and residing at 528 Andrews Street, Southington, CT 06489; and 452 West 500 North, Tremonton, UT 84337; respectively, hereby declare that:

we made and conceived the invention described and claimed in U.S. Patent Application No. 10/763,611, filed in the United States of America on January 23, 2004 and entitled APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR REDUCING OPERATING STRESS IN A TURBINE BLADE AND THE LIKE;

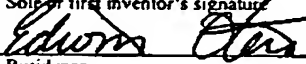
we made and conceived this invention while employed by Pratt & Whitney, a United Technologies Corporation Company, of 400 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut 06108;

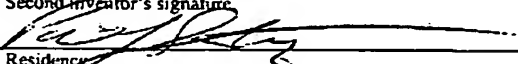
the invention is related to the work we are employed to perform and was made within the scope of our employment duties;

the invention was made during working hours and with the use of facilities, equipment, materials, funds, information and services of Pratt & Whitney; and

to the best of our knowledge the invention was not made under nor is there any relationship of the invention to, the performance of any work under any contract of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

The undersigned inventors declare further that all statements made herein of their own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true and further that the statements were made with the knowledge that lawful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such lawful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application of any patent issuing thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor <b>Edwin Otero</b>	
Sole or first inventor's signature 	Date <b>8/10/04</b>
Residence <b>Southington, CT</b>	
Citizenship <b>US</b>	
Mailing Address  <b>528 Andrews Street Southington, CT 06489</b>	

Full name of second inventor, if any <b>Patrick Strong</b>	
Second inventor's signature 	Date <b>8/11/04</b>
Residence <b>Tremonton, UT</b>	
Citizenship <b>US</b>	
Mailing Address  <b>452 West 500 North Tremonton, UT 84337</b>	